

TORRINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Continuation from June 19, 2013 and
Special Board of Education Meeting – Revised 6/25/13
Wednesday June 26, 2013
355 Migeon Avenue

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:01pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Present: Mr. Cavagnero (arrived at 6:15pm), Mrs. Cappabianca, Mrs. Hoehne, Mr. Kissko, Mr. Merola, Mr. Nargi, Mr. Rovero, Mr. Traub, Mrs. Batchelder, Mrs. Kloczko

Absent: Mr. Brady, Mr. Thibault, Mrs. Domanico, Mr. Joslyn, Mayor Bingham, Austin Kelson, Kevin Finn, Rachael Kelly

SCHOOL/COMMUNITY SESSION

Mr. Traub explained the purpose and rules of the School/Community Session. He related all emergency exit information.

There were five (5) speakers.

INFORMATION SHARING AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

TPS Management Restructuring

Mrs. Kloczko presented to the Board.

Mrs. Hoehne asked which personnel would be housed at the Middle School.

Mr. Kissko asked if the Board would be voting on this issue. He also wanted clarification of the word “we” that was used in the presentation. Mr. Kissko had questions about this issue being recommended by the Board. He asked about the job postings.

Mr. Rovero asked for clarification of the restructuring at the High School and the looping of personnel. He also had concerns regarding the number of guidance counselors. Mr. Rovero asked about the curriculum of CIAT personnel and the structure of the Elementary Schools. He wanted to know the benefits of this model.

Mr. Merola asked about the elimination of the Assistant Superintendent and which personnel will take over the responsibilities.

Mrs. Hoehne had concerns about the ninth (9th) grade restructuring.

Mr. Nargi wanted to know which previous meeting this issue was discussed and where in the budget it was shown. He voiced concerns that he felt the Board was not made aware of changes this dramatic and this should have been dealt with in a public setting.

Mr. Nargi asked how many students received diplomas this year. He wanted to know the time. He wanted to know the time frame for the evaluation of this restructuring plan.

Mr. Traub stated this was one of the Board Goals laid out in October 2012.

Mr. Cavagnero had grave concerns about the way this change was handled and the transparency of this restructuring to create seamless transitions for the students. He also had questions about which personnel handles discipline issues for which grades.

Mr. Traub said the legal office instructed him that this was a management issue and a special meeting was not needed for the Board to vet this issue. He wanted to bring this issue up at the Board of Education Retreat. He also spoke about procedure and what authority the Board has over the Superintendent.

Mrs. Cappabianca stated the Executive Committee did not have this plan beforehand and the Board cannot vote on this issue because it is a management decision. She also said if the Board is not happy they need to deal with this in the evaluation of the Superintendent. She asked for a chain of command and how events would be covered by faculty.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 9:26 p.m. a Board member made a motion to enter Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Hoehne. The vote was unanimous.

The vote to come out of Executive Session was not recorded.

ACTION ITEMS

A. Financial Statement

Mr. Rovero made a motion to accept the Financial Statement. Mrs. Hoehne seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Nargi asked about projections compared to previous years.

B. Enrollment Report – June 1, 2013

Mrs. Hoehne made a motion to approve the Enrollment Report. Mr. Rovero seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Nargi had questions about the month of May.

C. Approval of BOE 2013-2014 Meeting Calendar

Mrs. Hoehne made a motion to approve the Board of Education 2013-2014 Meeting Calendar. Mr. Merola seconded the motion. The vote passed with one (1) opposed, Mr. Nargi.

Mr. Nargi commented on the structure of the Board and Sub-Committees.

D. Approval of Policy 6095, Graduation Requirements

Mrs. Hoehne made a motion to approve Policy 6095. Mr. Rovero seconded the motion. The vote passed with one (1) opposed, Mr. Cavagnero.

E. Approval of Policy 2025, On Line Learning

Mrs. Hoehne made a motion to approve Policy 2025. Mr. Merola seconded the motion. The vote passed with one (1) opposed, Mr. Cavagnero.

F. Approval of 8 Year Enrollment Data Report

Mr. Rovero made a motion to approve the Eight Year Enrollment Data Report. Mr. Merola seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Nargi commented on the trends.

G. Consent Agenda

1. Approval of May 15, 2013 Board of Education Meeting Minutes
2. Approval of June 12, 2013 Special Board of Education Meeting Minutes
3. Approval of Sub Committee Meeting Minutes
 - a. School Improvement Committee – May 1, 2013
 - b. Policy Committee – May 1, 2013
 - c. Budget Committee – May 8, 2013
 - d. Personnel Committee – May 8, 2013
 - e. Grievance Committee – May 20, 2013

4. Appointments and Resignations

Mr. Rovero made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda with the amendment of the May 15, 2013 BOE meeting minutes. Mr. Rovero stated that he was confused with Mr. Merola on the vote against field trips. Mr. Merola seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

H. Approval of 2013-2014 Lunch Prices

Mr. Merola made a motion to approve the 2013-2014 Lunch Prices. Mr. Rovero seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

I. Approval of Non-Bargaining Contracts

Mr. Merola made a motion to approve the Non-Bargaining Contracts. Mrs. Hoehne seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

A. Board of Education Retreat – July 16, 2013

Mr. Traub outlined the Board of Education retreat.

Mr. Merola asked to discuss concerns regarding the maintenance department. He also spoke about the Wellness Policy and accountability.

Mrs. Hoehne said she would like to see the E-alerts go out to all Board members.

Mr. Rovero asked for follow up information on TAG programs.

Mr. Kissko commented on notification of parents from the district and asked about procedures during emergency situations. He also said the graduation ceremony went very well.

Mr. Nargi commented on an article about the Board being sued. He asked for information regarding legal matters.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Budget Committee – Mr. Rovero reported.
2. Personnel Committee – No report.
3. Policy Committee – Mrs. Hoehne reported.
4. School Improvement Committee – Mr. Cavagnero reported.

5. Education Connection – Mr. Kissko reported.
6. THS Oversight Panel – Mr. Kissko reported.
7. Juvenile Court Update – Mr. Nargi reported.

ITEMS FOR UPCOMING AGENDA

1. Financial Statements
2. Committee Reports
3. Maintenance Restructure
4. TAG Restructure
5. Lawsuit Update
6. State Statute, under-performing administrators

FUTURE MEETINGS

1. Budget Committee Meeting – July 10, 2013
2. Personnel Committee Meeting – July 10, 2013
3. School Improvement Committee Meeting – July 24, 2013
4. Policy Committee Meeting – July 24, 2013
5. Special Meeting of Board of Education (Retreat) – July 16, 2013

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:58pm Mr. Merola made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Hoehne seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.